

Message Text

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43

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-06 HEW-04 MED-02 /028 W
----- 037977

R 301033Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1686
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON

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BERLIN ALSO FOR USMISSION BERLIN

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OEXC (AMERICAN COLLEGE OF CARDIOLOGY)

SUBJECT: FY 1977 AMSPEC PROGRAM: PROPOSED PROJECT FOR AMERICAN
HEART SPECIALISTS

REF: STATE 212155

1. WE HAD BEEN UNAWARE THAT PAST VISITS OF TEAMS OF THE
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF CARDIOLOGISTS HAD BEEN FINANCIALLY ASSIST-
ED BY CU. WHILE VISITS TO SOFIA HAVE CERTAINLY BEEN OF SOME
VALUE, WE DO NOT RPT NOT THINK THEY SHOULD RANK HIGH ON
LIST OF PRIORITIES FOR EXCHANGES WITH BULGARIA.

2. ACCORDINGLY WE NOT ONLY SUPPORT THE IDEA OF ASKING HOST
COUNTRY TO PICK UP THE TAB FOR LOCAL EXPENSES, BUT QUESTION
WHETHER USG NEEDS TO PROVIDE ANY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
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TO AMERICAN CARDIOLOGISTS WHO, INDIVIDUALLY, ARE LIKELY

TO BE AMONG THE HIGHEST-PAID PROFESSIONALS OF OUR
COUNTRY. WE ALSO EXPECT THAT TRIPS OF THIS KIND WOULD
QUALIFY FOR TAX DEDUCTIONS.

3. FOREGOING SHOULD NOT BE UNDERSTOOD AS MEANING THAT
WE DON'T WISH TO SEE VISIT OF ANOTHER CARDIOLOGY TEAM EN-
COURAGED BY DEPT. WE WILL CERTAINLY BE GLAD TO CONTINUE
TO PROVIDE "FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE", AT THIS END, AS
WELL AS HOSPITALITY.
HERZ

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